export of wheat, as far as possible keeping in view the contractual obligations, during the current financial year.

Enhanced Rate of Exim Scrips

1813. SHRI SATCHIDANANDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is any proposal to allow enhanced rate of Exim Scrips to Hotels/Restaurants and Travel Agents;

(b) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that the Hotels and Travel Agencies are claiming extra Exim Scrips on the Tourist earnings of other Organisation Like Airlines; and

(c) if so, what action are taken by Government that Exim-Scrips are permitted only on their own earnings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) A proposal to give Exim Scrips to Tourism Industry including Hotels was made but before a final view could be taken in the matter partial convertibility of the Rupee was announced and Exim Scrips have been abolished by the Government w.e.f. 29.2.92.

(b) and (c) Exim Scrips were not admissible to Hotels and Tourism Industry against their foreign exchange earnings and therefore question of claiming Exim Scrips against earnings by other Organisation like Airlines etc. does not arise.

Export and Import of Homoeopathic Medicines

1814. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Homoeopathic medicines including combination, patents, specialities, biochemic tablets are permitted for import under the provisions of Open General Licence;

(b) whether the country is exporting the above medicines; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for allowing import of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Import and export of Homoeopathic medicines including combination, patents, specialities, biochemic tablets is permitted freely.

(c) Import of Homoeopathic medicines is being permitted on quality considerations.

Squabbling over Imported Rubber Between S.T.C. and Tyre Firms

1815. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the issue of pricing and quality of imported rubber has become a bone of contention between the State Trading Corporation and the tyre industries;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for squabbling over imported rubber between State Trading Corporation and tyre firms; and

(c) what steps his Ministry proposes to take in consultation with the Ministry of Industry to resolve this dispute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) There is no squabbling between State Trading Corporation and the tyre industries on the issue of pricing and quality of imported rubber. Terms, including price, of STC's offer for sale of their imported stocks of rubber are under discussion with the industry.

Strategy of Exim Scrips

1816. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up any Committee to examine all aspects of the operational strategies of Exim Scrips;

(b) if so, what is the term of reference together with the composition of such Committee;

(c) by when its report is likely to be submitted to Government;

(d) whether the report has already been made available to Government; and

(e) if so, what are the main recommendations made by the Committee and the present stage of implementation thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (e) A Committee under the Chairmanship of Dy. Governor, RBI and consisting of four others namely DGIT, JS, Deptt. of Economic Affairs, Chairman, SBI & President FIEO was constituted. However, before the committee could meet and finalise recommendations, partial convertibility of the Rupee was introduced and Exim Scrips, were abolished by the Government w.e.f. 29.2.92. No action therefore is called for in the matter.

Trade relations with Russian countries

1817. Dr. NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many countries are newly formed after breaking away from U.S.S.R. with whom Government have established trade relations; and

(b) what is the present position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) has been established consisting of Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Armenia, Moldavia, Azerbaijan, Kirghizstan, Kazakhstan, Tadjikistan, Turkmenistand and Uzbekistan. Georgia is not presently a member of the Commonwealth. India has signed trade and Economic Cooperation Agreements with Uzbekistan and kazakhstan. The Agreement has been initialled with the Russian Federation and is likely to be signed shortly. Discussions have been held on concluding Trade Agreement with the Governments of Belarus, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Kirghizstan.

कुछ वस्तुओं के निर्यात में कमी

1818. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव** : क्या **वाणिज्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कुछ वस्तुओं के निर्यात में कमी हो गई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो किन-किन वस्तुओं के निर्यात में कमी आई है; और

(ग) जिन वस्तुओं के निर्यात में कमी आई है, उनके निर्यात को बढ़ाने के लिए सरकार ने क्या प्रयत्न किए हैं?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी॰ चिदम्बरम): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) अप्रैल-दिसम्बर, 1991 अवधि के दौरान अप्रैल-दिसम्बर 1990 की तुलना में जिन प्रमुख वस्तुओं के निर्यातों में गिरावट आई है उनमें ये शामिल है; चाय, एच पी एस मूंगफली, कपास तथा पैट्रोलियम उत्पाद।

(ग) सरकार ने अनेक उपाय आरम्भ किए हैं जिनका उद्देश्य सामान्यतः निर्यातों में वृद्धि करना है। इनमें ये शामिल हैं, रुपये को आंशिक रूप से परिवर्तनीय बनाना टैरिफ दरों में कमी करना, अग्रिम लाइसेंसिंग योजना को सुदृढ़ बनाना, निर्यात बाजारों का विविधीकरण आदि। चाय के निर्यातों में वृद्धि करने के लिए किए गए विशेष उपायों में शामिल हैं: यूरोप तथा खाड़ी के देशों को औद्योगिक प्रतिनिधिमंडल भेजना, विभिन्न अंतराष्ट्रीय मेलों में भाग लेना, ब्रांड संवर्धन योजना शुरू करना, ब्रिटेन में दार्जिलिंग तथा असम लोगो के लिए अभियान, गहन मीडिया अभियान आदि। एच पी एस मूंगफली के निर्यातों में वृद्धि करने के लिए किए गए उपायों में शामिल हैं: गुजरात के प्रमुख मूंगफली जिलों में प्रदर्शन फार्मों की स्थापना, मूंगफली उपजकर्ताओं में पैदावार के बाद की प्रक्रिया जैसे मूंगफली निकालना, भंडारण, ढुलाई आदि को लोकप्रिय बनाना, बढ़िया किस्म की मूंगफली का उत्पादन करने के लिए ठेका-कृषि गुणवत्ता परीक्षण के लिए प्रयोगशाला की स्थापना, क्वालिटी में सुधार लाने के लिए शुल्क मुक्त कलर सार्टिंग मशीनों का आयात उदार बनाना। जहां तक कपास का संबंध है देश में वर्तमान रूई स्थिति को देखते हुए वर्ष 1991-92 मौसम के दौरान निर्यात के लिए और आगे किसी प्रकार का कोटा रिलीज करने की गुंजाइश नहीं है। पैट्रोलियम उत्पादों का निर्यात हमारे निर्यात के लिए बेशी माल की उपलब्धता पर निर्भर करता है जो कि इन उत्पादों की घरेलू खपत पर निर्भर होता है। इन उत्पादों की जितनी बेशी मात्रा का सृजन किया जाएगा, उसे निर्यात किया जाएगा।